

THE SWORD of the LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The Sword of the Lord, and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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Church Puts Sword in Homes

By Dr. John R. Rice, Editor

It is a most sensible thing for Bible-believing churches to take advantage of the tremendous offer for subscriptions which *The Sword of the Lord* is now making. Many, many churches put their denominational paper in the church budget. If the denominational paper is a good one, and if the cause is fully worthy of Christians' support, then this is well and good. But in nearly every case people would read much more gratefully *The Sword of the Lord* and find much greater spiritual blessings therein.

Here comes a lovely letter from the Calvary Baptist Church, Mineral Wells, Texas. The pastor writes:

"Dear Brother Rice:

"The proposition was placed before our deacons that THE SWORD OF THE LORD be sent into every home where Calvary Baptist Church has a member, as we enter into a campaign for souls this year. This subscription will cost about what a revival usually costs and it was presented as being equally as fruitful in the course of a year. There are three prominent, unsaved business men included on the list besides our own members. May God grant their salvation.

"I do not know who started THE SWORD OF THE LORD coming to me, but it is thoroughly enjoyed and serves as a source of inspiration to me each week.

"There are 206 names according to my count. Could we send more names later on if we so desire at the \$1.00 per person rate? This pastor believes that with the aid of this paper coming into his members' homes there can be a substantial increase in souls saved this year."

CLAUDE H. HARRIS

Note the very sensible planning of this pastor and the board of deacons. The whole church can get THE SWORD OF THE LORD in

every home, for a full year, for what one brief revival campaign would usually cost. And they believe that it will do more for soul winning and for the revival of the church than the revival campaign. Of course, that does not mean that they will not have revival campaigns, for they will. They are adding the wonderful impact of the sermons in THE SWORD OF THE LORD, and of features, to the preaching of the noble pastor and any evangelists who may be brought to the church during the year.

It is also interesting to note that the pastor is greatly blessed by THE SWORD OF THE LORD. Someone else paid for his subscription. We suggest that you do likewise.

Let us pray that THE SWORD OF THE LORD may be made the most powerful influence for good in the homes of this church, and that a tremendous revival may result, with many, many souls saved and with many, many lives transformed.

Will you suggest to your pastor or official board members that THE SWORD OF THE LORD should come to the home of every member of your church? Here is a way where some godly Christian can give a wonderful gift to his entire church, by sending THE

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The Postman is Always Welcome

By the Editor

Isn't the postman always welcome at your house? He is at my house and at my office. So it is with nearly everybody. The postman is always welcome.

My, what a howl went up when, a few months ago the Postmaster General cut mail deliveries in many cities to only one a day, instead of two or three! People wanted the postman twice daily instead of only once.

Businessmen, advertisers, politicians, false religions, all know that the United States mail is one of the quickest and cheapest and surest ways of getting out their propaganda. You see, the postman is always welcome. One can read his mail now or later. He can simply glance over it, or read it more carefully as he chooses. There is no embarrassment, no complications, as there would be with the personal visit of a salesman or a candidate for office. Besides, one might forget what the salesman would say, or the candidate, or the Christian worker, but things are gotten more accurately through the eye than through the ear, and besides one can read them over again, if he has the matters before him in print.

This welcome that every home gives the postman means that one of the very best ways of getting out the gospel is by mail. Consider what kind of Christian literature one could best use in dealing with the unsaved by mail.

1. The material ought to be respectable, well-accepted, authentic material. If it is a cheaply-printed tract, how would the reader know that it is representative or correct or authoritative? But if it is a popular weekly or monthly magazine, subscribed for by tens of thousands of others, it ought to be worthy of reading. For example, modernists read THE SWORD

OF THE LORD though they do not agree with it. They believe it is a representative spokesman for Bible believers. Catholic readers read THE SWORD OF THE LORD, because it does not picture some denomination trying to make proselytes, but evangelical Christianity at its evangelistic best, representing the best of all Protestantism.

2. The material ought to be evangelical Bible-preaching and soul-winning material. It ought to be long enough to make a real impact. It ought to be plain expounding of the Word of God, earnest appeal to the conscience and the will. The material ought to be readable, and skillfully written. That means that it ought to include sermons by the best and most useful soul winners in the world. That is what THE SWORD OF THE LORD does.

3. The literature sent to unsaved people should be interesting, it should be varied. There should be pictures. There should be the testimony of many important and good people. So THE SWORD OF THE LORD with its interesting sermon subjects, attractive cartoons, features for children, answers to Bible questions, reports on revivals, its neat printing and good workmanship, fit it to be widely used.

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FIVE SOLEMN FACTS

By Oswald J. Smith, Litt.D.
Pastor Peoples Church, Toronto

"Enter ye in at the strait gate: for wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat: Because strait is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth into life, and few there be that find it."—Matt. 7:13, 14.

Now verses 21 to 27:

"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: and the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it."

There are five solemn facts with which I want to deal, facts of such vital importance that to ignore them is to willfully reject the warning and entreaty of God's infallible Word and deliberately disregard the danger signals of divine truth. Therefore, beware! Eternal issues are at stake. These are the facts as I see them. I am going to enumerate them one by one and substantiate them from God's Word.

First — All Will Not Be Saved

There is no such thing as universal salvation; some will be saved, others—lost. Make no mistake, let no one deceive you—a day of separation is surely coming, a separation of the wheat from the

tares, the good from the bad, the sheep from the goats. On one side or the other, every man and woman will be arraigned. I care not what the Universalists say, such is the solemn declaration of Scripture over and over again; and the question is, Will you be among the saved or the lost?

All I have to do in order to substantiate the statement I have made is, to refer you to the parables of the wheat and the tares, and the dragnet. We cannot ar-

gue over the interpretation because the Lord Himself explains them.

The wheat, He tells us, represents the children of God, the tares the children of Satan. The servants wanted to go and root out the tares, leaving only the wheat. "But he said, Nay; lest while ye gather up the tares, ye root up also the wheat with them. Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together first the tares, and bind them in bundles to burn them: but gather the wheat into my barn" (Matt. 13: 29, 30).

How long were they to grow together? Until the harvest. When will the harvest be? At the end of the age. That means then that

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THE EDITOR'S Notes

by John R. Rice

THE CENTROPOLIS BAPTIST CHURCH, Kansas City, Missouri, is led by Pastor Gordon Carpenter, a devoted and blessed man of God. We had ten days of good revival there, October 15 through 29. There were over fifty conversions, the pastor counts, a number of additions to the church, a real moving of revival among the people of God. I preached usually three times a day, part of the time four times a day. There were many outside invitations including the Christian Businessmen's Committee, Youth for Christ noon meeting, two Saturday nights at Berean Baptist Church, daily radio broadcast at 1:30 p.m. on weekdays, etc. Praise the Lord for His blessing.

"PRESENT-DAY METHODISM AND the Bible," is a good book by Rev. Newton C. Conant. It is a book you need. Here is documented proof that present-day Methodist leaders deny the inspiration of the Bible, both of the Old and New Testaments, that they "deny practically every fundamental doctrine of the historic Christian faith," that they preach a so-called social gospel instead of salvation by the blood of Christ, that there is a definite trend toward Roman Catholicism, and there is a careful discussion of the Methodist church and its part in the Federal Council of Churches. There is tragic proof of the modernism, the actual infidelity, of Federal Council church leaders, and its advocacy by the Methodist literature and leaders. Remember this book is by a

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What is the Gospel?

By the late J. Wilbur Chapman, D.D.

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ."—Rom. 1:16

It has always seemed to me that this text of Scripture shines like a star in the midnight darkness of this chapter, for it has been truly said that not in all the world's history has there ever been given such a marvelous description of sin as the apostle gives in the first chapter of this great Epistle. It is the description of the human heart, and especially of the unregenerate heart. Yet here, in the midst of all the darkness, we find a perfect gem of a statement: "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ."

The apostle's eyes must have flashed as he dictated it; his face must have flushed; his fingers must have twitched nervously as he realized the power of it. I imagine that he quite understood that it was to be the power to overthrow the influence of culture

which was not consecrated, when he said, "I am willing to declare it even in Rome."

Rome was then the center of culture in the known world. He knew there would be power to overcome prejudice, for he said, "It is the power of God unto the Jews as well as unto the Greek." Surely he realized that in it there was influence that would overpower wisdom when it had not been yielded to God.

I question whether there has been a stronger statement than this: "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ." I think the best reason for the apostle's using the expression is that he knew it was the power that would overcome sin. He knew that by the gospel story the slave of sin would be set free. He knew that the man blinded with passion would be given freedom. There is music in the very sound of the word, "gospel." It means "good news." It is good news to the man who, for years, has been blinded by skepticism. It is good news for the woman who, for years, has been overtaken with

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Dr. Oswald J. Smith



Dr. J. Wilbur Chapman

What Is the Gospel?

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a fault. It is good news for the man who thinks he is hopeless. It is the greatest news the sinning world has ever heard, and the unregenerate man has ever received. "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ."

The Marvelous Words of this Text

The text is marvelous in its words. First, take the word "gospel." Sometimes we hear people say that all a minister needs to do is to preach the simple gospel. There is no such thing as a simple gospel. The gospel is the greatest conception of truth the world has ever heard. The gospel is the story that makes all the angels in Heaven stand in wonderment. The gospel is the story that all the saints in Glory will sing about. There is no such thing as a simple gospel. It is the most wonderful story that we could ever hear.

The next word is this—"Christ." "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ." "Christ" is His anointed name; "Jesus" His earthly name. "Christ"—the name that will make all the saints in Glory sing praises unto Him who has redeemed us by His own precious blood.

The next word in the verse that causes us to stop and think is "power." "For it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth." It is the power of God. Nothing can stand before it, and I care not what may be your condition in sin, nor what may be your position in doubt, if you give this gospel a fair chance it will break the fetters of sin, and drive away the gloom of doubt.

The next word is "salvation." "It is the power of God unto salvation." There is a three-fold salvation. In II Corinthians 1:10, we read: "Who delivered us from so great a death, and doth deliver; in whom we trust that he will yet deliver us." So that if you should say to me, "Are you saved?" and I should say, "I have been saved," that would be a Scriptural answer. And if you should say to me again, "Are you saved?" and I should say, "I am being saved," my reply would still be Scriptural. But if you would say to me yet again, "Are you saved?" and I should answer, "I shall be saved," it would be quite as Scriptural as my former replies. For I have been saved from the penalty of sin; I am being saved from the power of sin; and I shall one day be saved from the presence of sin.

"Salvation" is a marvelous word. Salvation comes because of the death of Jesus and acceptance of Him. I try to allow no one to go beyond me in giving emphasis to the power of His death. Yet I sometimes think we do not sufficiently emphasize His wonderful life. So the gospel means a great deal more today than some would think.

In His Life He Is Our Example

First of all, then—*In His life He is our Example.* First Peter 2:21: "For even hereunto were ye called; because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example." Have you ever noticed He did not say He left us a pattern? What is the difference between a pattern and an example? A pattern is a thing that must be reproduced in exactness. An example is that which may be reproduced in spirit. I might not be able to live just as Jesus lived, because He was in the Orient and I am here. But I may be able to live in the spirit of Jesus. And what I am trying to preach is this—that the revival we need is a revival which will teach men how to practice the principles of Jesus in their business, in their homes, in their pleasure. He has left us an ex-

ample. So that in His living He is a part of the gospel story.

In His Death He Is Our Redeemer

But that is not all. *In His death He is our Redeemer.* There are two sentences that I think men ought to realize in these days. This is the first one: "The wages of sin is death." God has never changed that. There is another sentence: "The soul that sinneth it shall die." God has not taken that back either. But there is still another Scripture. "So Christ was once offered." And still again, "Christ died for our sins according to the Scripture."

Whenever I find one minimizing sin, I always find him minimizing the atonement. Whenever we find them saying that sin is only a mistake, I find them saying that men may be saved by their strength of character rather than by Calvary. It is only by the death of Jesus that we may be saved. He paid the penalty. He suffered in our stead. He offered Himself for you and for me, and there is no other way to be saved. On the authority of God's Word I make this statement. You can find no other way to be saved than this—an absolute surrender to God in the acceptance of Jesus

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Christ as a personal Saviour. So, in His living is our example. In His dying He is our Redeemer.

In His Burial He Is Our Scapegoat

But that is not all the gospel. *In His burial He is our Scapegoat.* In the fourth chapter of Romans, twenty-fifth verse, we read this—"Who was delivered because of our offences." Then, if you will turn over to Leviticus, you will find the scapegoat of the Old Testament. This is Jewish, of course, but may be used as an illustration. The priest stood with his hands upon the head of the goat, confessing the sins of Israel, and the goat was led away into a land where no man lived, bearing the sins of Israel. If Jesus died for my sin upon

Calvary, how does He meet my sins? He becomes my scapegoat, bearing my sins away as far as the east is from the west. Into the depths of the sea they are cast. Behind God's back they are thrown. So that when one comes to me drunken, or impure, or dishonest, I can look him in the face and say, "I have a mighty Saviour. He has answered for your sin on Calvary, and will bear away your sins." In His burial He is my scapegoat.

In His Resurrection He Is Our Justification

But that is not all the gospel. *In His resurrection He is my Justification.* "He was delivered because of our offences." But read Romans 4:25 again: "He was raised because of our justification." We have a song we sometimes sing, which is in many ways great, but which is wrong in one particular. We sing, "He tore the bars away, Jesus, my Saviour." It is a picture of His resurrection, but He did nothing of the sort. He did not tear the bars away.

Suppose you put a man in prison, and he is in for five years, and three years after his imprisonment he tears the bar away, and escapes. The law can put him back again. But if you put a man in prison and, he serves the full term and comes out, the law cannot put him back again. Jesus never tore the bars away. The time

was up. He had fulfilled the conditions. He had met all the demands of the law, and the stone was rolled away, and He came out answering for my justification. That is the gospel.

What is justification? Justification means that you stand before God as if you never had sinned. Justification means that your sins are put behind God's back, and forgotten. Justification means that you are before Him with an absolutely clean record. Not in your own thought, possibly, and not always in the judgment of men, possibly, but in the judgment of God. That is justification, and that is the gospel. In His resurrection is my hope.

In His Ascension He Is Our Head

But, let me say, that is not, by any means, all the gospel. *In His ascension He is our Head.* If He is the Head of the church, then two things must be true. First, He must direct the church. Second, we must honor the Head. I am quite sure that the man who attacks the deity of Jesus, putting Him on the same plane with Confucius and Buddha, puts a barrier in the way of spiritual progress that is absolutely insurmountable. He is the Head of the church. If He is, then let the church follow His direction. If my head wills one thing, and my foot does another,

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A Letter to Sword of the Lord Readers

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For Giving God's Word to Jews Throughout the World, and to Gentiles in Europe.

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Dear Friend:

We have returned from our trip to Israel and Europe with hearts full of praise to God for His great goodness throughout the entire journey.

In Israel we found a deep appreciation of our campaign New Testaments. We found also a great need for more Scriptures for perishing Jewish souls. Multitudes of them have doubtless never seen or read the New Testament. Among those who have recently arrived in the land of Israel are 100,000 Bulgarian and Rumanian Jews. But, alas, there are scarcely any Scriptures available in their languages. Our hearts are burdened for them, and we are ordering special editions of Bulgarian and Rumanian New Testaments for them.

The Lord is wondrously blessing the distribution of the tens of thousands of New Testaments that we sent to Greece, Italy, and France. But the supply is almost exhausted, and urgent calls are coming in for more. Dare we close our ears to these cries? No! We must do our utmost to provide more Testaments for them.

For a limited time, we are sending a copy of our new book, "Israel Returns Home According to Prophecy," to anyone who sends a gift of \$2.00 or more to help us in providing more New Testaments. The book contains 10 chapters and 33 pictures of Israel, and a map showing the present boundaries of the land of Israel.

These Bulgarian, Rumanian, Greek, Italian, and French New Testaments are greatly and urgently needed. May we count on your co-operation? Will you help with your prayers and your gifts—and generously, if possible!

Please do not delay. Please ask the Lord to show you what you should send, and please forward your gift as soon as possible. He will richly bless and reward! We are receiving glorious news of Jews and Gentiles being saved through reading our New Testaments.

Thanking you in advance for your prayers and for your gifts, and with all best wishes,

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What Is the Gospel?

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there is confusion. I can tell you when cities will be made better, when righteousness will prevail in politics, when the laboring man will receive his just dues, when the capitalist and the merchant will be treated fairly. It will be when we follow the leading of Jesus. In His ascension He is our Head.

I do not wonder St. Paul said, "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ." He knew that it reached down to the lowest and climbed up to the highest.

In His Coming He Is Our Hope

But that is not all the gospel. In His coming He is our Hope. In these days, when people's hearts are breaking, in these days when cities are going so far from God, in these days when I see men unjustly treated, in these days when the plans of men fail, I lift my eyes and say, "Oh, Lord Jesus, how long? How long? When He comes, every wrong of earth will be set right. So, come, Lord Jesus, come quickly!"

Someone may say, "Doesn't the belief in the Lord's second coming make you a bit of a fanatic?" In answer, permit me to say that holding to anything will make you

a fanatic if you press it out of proportion.

A friend of mine, a great preacher in Boston, lived out of the city in the summertime. He used to go away to Boston early in the morning, and he would say to his little children, "I am coming home on the five o'clock train. I want you to meet me." While he was gone in the city, the children would play—as children will—and their frocks would become soiled, and their faces, too, but whenever they knew their father was coming they would hurriedly clean up and hasten to meet him. One day my friend, as he left his home, said, "Children, I am going to the city. I do not know when I shall be coming home, whether it will be at ten o'clock or at noon. I may not be back until six o'clock, or I may not come until tomorrow. You watch for me." And he told me that he did not come back for a week. But the children met every train, looking for him; and this kept them clean for a week. I think this hope of Jesus' return will change one's living. If I believe that Jesus is coming soon I will not be unscrupulous in my dealing with men. I will not be sinful. I will not be unclean. I will

not be impure. I will not be faithless.

In His living He is my *Example*.
In His dying He is my *Redeemer*.
In His burial He is my *Scapegoat*.
In His resurrection He is my *Justification*.
In His ascension He is my *Head*.

But in His coming again He is my *Hope*.

And so may we say, "I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ." (From the book, *Revival Sermons*, by J. Wilbur Chapman. Published by Fleming H. Revell Company. Used by permission of the Publishers.)

The 100,000 Subscription Campaign

Here are vital facts about the 100,000 subscription campaign.

1. Please get your subscriptions in by December 1, if possible. That is not the closing date of the campaign but we will be overwhelmed thereafter, we fear. It will be a wonderful help to us and avoid mistakes and delay, if you will get your subscriptions in to us by December 1.

2. THE SWORD OF THE LORD may be sent during the special subscription campaign, as Christmas gifts. If you wish the paper to go as a subscription gift, we will begin the paper with the Christmas issue, and a card will be sent saying that it is a present from you. Be sure to give names and addresses carefully, mark each subscription which you want to be handled this way as "subscription gift," and see that we have your own name correctly to put on the gift card.

3. The special low rate for sub-

scriptions now, during this campaign to reach 100,000 paid subscriptions, is only \$2.00 for the first subscription and \$1.00 per year thereafter. That means two years for \$3.00, three years for \$4.00, and ten subscriptions for \$11, fifty subscriptions for \$51, etc. This rate is good for either new or renewal subscriptions, but renewal subscriptions must be marked "renewal" to avoid duplication and delay and errors.

4. Better renew your own subscription for four or five years. You will never get THE SWORD OF THE LORD any cheaper, and we think likely you may never get it as cheap again. We plan to go to twelve pages soon. Costs are inevitably rising. So renew your own subscription if possible for five years for \$6.00 or four years for \$5.00 at this low rate.

5. Canadian and foreign subscriptions may be included in this provided you add fifty cents for each one-year subscription. It costs us that much for extra postage. If sent at the rate above, named for American subscriptions they will be enrolled for only eight months each. However, men in the Armed Service of the United States can still receive subscriptions at the United States' rate, wherever they are in the world.

6. Send all subscriptions to Sword of the Lord Publishers, 214 W. Wesley, Wheaton, Illinois.

The Editor's Notes

(Continued from page 1)

Methodist, part of a group of churches which did not go into the union of Northern and Southern Methodist churches. By all means read it. Send \$1.00 for it to Bible Protestant Press, P.O. Box 910, Camden 5, New Jersey.

THE SWORD BOOK CLUB IS GOING wonderfully under the blessing of God. We are grateful to our splendid judges, Dr. Robert G. Lee, president of Southern Baptist Convention; Dr. V. Raymond Edman, president of Wheaton College; Dr. Bob Jones, Jr., president Bob Jones University; Dr. John L. Hill, most prominent book man among Southern Baptists, Dr. T. Roland Phillips, pastor Arlington Presbyterian Church, Baltimore; Dr. Henry Hepburn, Presbyterian pastor emeritus, Chicago; and Evangelist Bill Rice, who works with the editor. We are grateful for Mrs. Margie McCall, assistant director who is doing wonderful work. We average nearly two hundred new members of the Sword Book Club each month. These great men of God select the finest Christian books available. Each month there is a first choice and alternates. You get one free book when you join, and one free dividend book with every four monthly selections or alternates that you buy. You take no book you do not want, pay no fees, you need buy no more than four books a year of your own choice. We urge you to join. It is a work of love for Christ.

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The Postman is Always Welcome

(Continued from page 1)

4. This literature to win unsaved people ought to be repeated. The weekly is better than monthly. It ought to come at regular times, and thus gain acceptance in the home little by little. A lost man may not read one issue, but eventually he will read something of interest. He may not be interested in history, but he may be interested in the scientific references. He may not be interested in a sermon on the blood of Christ, but he may be interested in a straightforward attack on sin, and appeal to the conscience. So THE SWORD OF THE LORD coming weekly for a year, bringing 100 or 130, or 140 sermons in a year, many of them by the best-known preachers of this generation and the generations past, and always one of them to the unsaved, is ideally suited for this work.

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The pastor of Shady Grove Baptist Church, De Berry, Texas, knows a good thing when he sees it. Recently he entered memberships for eighteen new members whom he had enlisted in the Sword Book Club. Accompanying his letter was the explanation "I suggested each new member select Prayer as their first book. This book has meant more to my prayer life, and taught me better how to pray, than any I ever read on prayer. The reason: it is so thoroughly scriptural."

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(Continued from column 1)
shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels. . . And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal" (Matt. 25: 32-34, 41, 46).

The angels, our Lord says, will sever the wicked from the just. He will put the sheep on his right hand and the goats on His left. To the one He will say, "Come, ye blessed of my Father"; to the other, "Depart, ye cursed." Hence, if there is to be a separation, all will not be saved. And again I ask—Will you be among the saved or among the lost?

Second—The Majority Will Be Lost

That is not a very pleasant truth to preach, but it is the Word of God, and therefore it must be preached. "Wide is the gate, and

broad is the way that leadeth to destruction, and MANY there be which go in thereat." Many does not mean few. Many means many. "Strait is the gate, and narrow is the way which leadeth unto life, and FEW there be that find it." Few does not mean many. Few means few. There will be many on the broad way and few on the narrow.

"But how can a God of love," you exclaim, "consign the majority to perdition? Surely the majority will be saved, and only a very few, the great outstanding sinners of the centuries, lost." No, my friend, the majority will be lost.

Let me ask you this question: Was there ever a time when this God of love of whom you speak did allow the majority to be lost? There was. It was at the time of the flood. Only eight were saved. All the others perished, the

(Continued on page 5)

Church Homes

(Continued from page 1)

SWORD OF THE LORD to every family. Or several men together could do it. Or it may be put in the church budget as in the case of Calvary Baptist Church, Mineral Wells, Texas.

Don't you think that churches ought to do as much to bring revival in their midst and for winning the souls of their members, as they would to support a denominational program? The program is good, if the denomination is sound and if the material is true to the faith, but revival ought to be first, soul winning ought to be first in the hearts of God's people. Will you help make it so in your church?

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Solemn Facts

(Continued from page 1)

there will be tares as well as wheat in the field when the age ends, children of Satan as well as children of God. If all are to be saved then all the tares must become wheat. But that does not happen. The tares remain tares. As a matter of fact, the tares multiply faster than the wheat, so that at the end of the age Satan has more followers than God. The tares are not to be saved; they are to be gathered into bundles and burned.

The same is true of the dragnet. It gathers of all, both good and bad alike. Now there are bad fish in the sea. But this is the kingdom net, this is the visible church, and lo and behold, there are bad fish in the net itself. Nor will there be any separation until the age ends. Only then will the good be separated from the bad. Hence all will not be saved.

"The Son of man shall send forth his angels, and they shall gather out of his kingdom all things that offend, and them which do iniquity; And shall cast them into the furnace of fire: there shall be wailing and gnashing of teeth. Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father" Matt. 13:41-43).

The angels shall come forth, and sever the wicked from among the just" (Matt. 13:49).

"He shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats; And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. . . Then

(Continued on column 4)

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Five Solemn Facts

(Continued from page 4)

good and the bad, the old and the young, little new-born babes—all perished beneath the waters of the flood. If God did it once, is it not conceivable that He might do it again? He did do it again. Do you remember Sodom and Gomorrah? How many escaped? Only three. All the others perished. If, therefore, God did it a second time, He might do it a third time. He will do it a third time. We know perfectly well that the vast majority will reject Jesus Christ and be lost.

Why, even today, the broad way is thronged while the narrow way is trodden by but few. Think of heathenism if you will. Think of China's 475 millions. How many of them are Christians? Only about one million. The rest are still in heathenism. Think of India's

four hundred millions. How many of them are Christians? Only about seven million including Catholics and Protestants. The vast majority therefore travel the broad way.

"Yes, but what about Europe?" you ask. "Surely the majority in Europe are Christians." Are they? I have travelled in Europe in every country except five, and I know Europe. I want to say that it is like looking for a needle in a haystack to find Christians in Southern Europe. The overwhelming majority of people on the European continent have no knowledge whatever of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

"Yes," you say, "but what about America, Christian America? Surely in America the majority will be found on the narrow way." Is that so?

I was listening one day to Dr. Mark Matthews in Seattle, Washington. He was giving out some very interesting figures, and I have never forgotten them. "Do you know how many people," he asked, "never darken a church door from one year's end to another?" I sat up to listen. This was his answer. Sixty-five million, so he stated, never see the inside of a church from one year's end to another. That means almost half the population. And what about the others? Well, we must include

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(Dr. Rice will be accompanied by his evangelistic party consisting of Rev. Warren Steward, song leader, and Mabel Steward, pianist.)

Catholics, Jews, Protestants and all those who attend church once or twice a year, say on Christmas Sunday or on Easter. How many real Christians then does that leave? I think if you will eliminate the hypocrites, the mere professors, you will find very few, even in so-called Christian America, on the narrow way today, while you will find vast multitudes treading the broad way that leads to destruction.

If you will visit all the churches of a given city at seven o'clock Sunday night, or when everyone should be in church, and if you will count the number present, and then subtract it from the total population, you will find the vast majority outside the churches and only a few, comparatively speaking, inside. Test it and see. The majority do not travel the narrow way.

Do you know how many people attend church regularly on Sunday? Only about 8% of the entire population attend the morning service and only 2% the night. If these statistics are correct, and I have every reason to believe that they are, then the majority will be lost.

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There is More Space on the Reverse side

majority or with the minority? This is one time when I would want to be with the minority.

Third—Many Will Perish Who Expect to Be Saved

This is the saddest fact of all. Multitudes who confidently expect to be in Heaven will awaken when it is too late, to find that after all they have never been born again. All their life-time they have been deceived. Satan has kept the scales on their eyes to the very last, and finally, when it is too late, the scales fall off and they realize that they have never been saved. Oh, awful thought!—to be on the false foundation, unsaved, self-deceived, and lost eternally. Profession without possession, and the door of mercy closed! Then, alas, the bitter cry, "Too late! Too late!"

According to God's Word some have built on the rock, but others on shifting sand. I have already read in your hearing the story of the two men who built their houses. One looked just as attractive as the other. And as long as the sun was shining, one appeared to be as secure as the other. But suddenly the storm breaks, and the house on the rock withstands the blast, while the one on the sand falls. So will it be in that day. Many who think they have built well will find their foundations giving way and will perish.

Are you, my friend, on the solid rock Christ Jesus, or are you on the sinking sand of your own works? I am so glad I am able to say:

"On Christ the solid rock I stand,
All other ground is sinking sand."

"Not every one that saith unto me Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven. . . Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in

thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity."

Oh, my brother, my sister, can it be possible that this will be your fatal doom? Has Satan blinded your eyes; are you deceived? You who have listened to the Gospel all your life; you who have been brought up in a Christian home and trained in the Sunday School; you who have been an active member of the church—tell me, are you resting on a false foundation; and will you discover when it is too late that you were never saved at all? For, remember, many will perish who expect to be saved, and you may be among the number.

Fourth—There Is No Salvation After Death

We read in God's Word of a great gulf. We are told two things about this gulf. First, it is fixed. That means it can never be moved. It is permanent. Second, it is impassable. No one can cross from one side to the other.

This means that there is no second chance, in spite of what the Russellites or Jehovah's Witnesses have to say about it. If you, my friend, die unsaved, you will remain unsaved. The Bible does not offer a glimmer of hope to anyone who rejects Christ in this life. There is no hope beyond the grave, no second chance.

Why should there be? If you deliberately refuse to accept Jesus Christ now, why should God offer you another opportunity in the life to come? What is there in death that would change you? If you are against God now, you will be against Him then. You may be sorry for your sufferings, but you will not reverse your decision. If you do not want to be saved now, you will not want to be saved hereafter. There is a limit to the mercy of God.

Suppose you offer me a Christmas gift, and I spurn your offer and hurl your gift back into your face. Would you come around next Christmas and offer me another gift? Well, you might if you loved me enough.

But suppose I should take your second gift and trample it under
(Continued on page 7)

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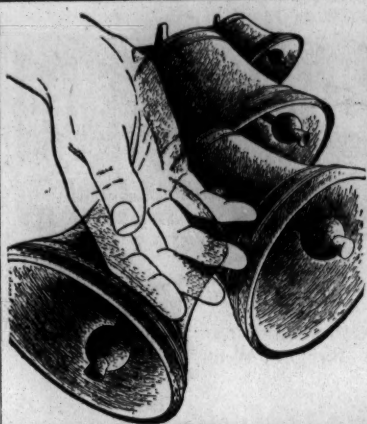
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Dr. Bob Jones Says:

A picture was carried recently in a number of religious periodicals, showing in the form of a cross the approximately eleven hundred ministerial students at Bob Jones University. These ministerial students are commonly known as the Bob Jones University "preacher boys." They do their extension work under the direction of Dr. Stenholm, the Director of Extension. They go out on week ends and conduct Christian services and do personal work and win hundreds of people to the Lord Jesus Christ in at least seven states. We do not take back into school at the end of the summer any ministerial student who does not during the summertime speak to a minimum of one person a day about his soul, and he has to write a report of each case with which he deals. Each ministerial student must conduct at least one public religious service a week and must send in the outline of his sermon.

According to the report which Dr. Stenholm gives me about the summer work last summer, these ministerial students conducted 32,001 public religious services. They participated in 10,876 other services. They dealt personally with 77,066 souls. Last summer they led 15,501 people to the Lord Jesus Christ and had the joy of bringing back into fellowship with the Lord 7,876 backsliders, and they had 1,355 young people who dedicated their lives to the Lord for full-time Christian service. They put into the

hands of people 388,486 Gospel tracts.

Now, here is something to which we wish to call the special attention of our Christian friends to whom we are appealing for contributions for the Student Loan Endowment Fund. Our books show that we are giving more than \$50,000 in financial assistance to these ministerial students who could not be here without this financial assistance. Next year we will have to do a great deal more because four hundred of these ministerial students get financial help from the government because they are veterans. The allowance of practically all of these four hundred veterans will expire at the end of this school year. Now, we are earnestly appealing to you Christian people who are interested in the type of work that Bob Jones University is doing to send in contributions, and please send these contributions before the close of 1950 if possible. Send something now, and next year send some more. We must raise this one million dollars for the Student Loan Endowment Fund if we do what we must do to help the students that are going to need help. Let me thank again all of you friends who have contributed; and let me appeal to you to help us some more; and, please, you folks who have not sent in a contribution, send in some amount now.

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Five Solemn Facts

(Continued from page 5)

foot, telling you that I did not want it; would you return the third time with a similar offer? I think not. Yet you have an idea that in spite of the number of times you reject Jesus Christ, God's mercy should never be exhausted. He should return again and again and give you another, and still another chance. How absurd! Why should He? WHY? Because He is merciful. Again and again He comes to you in this life and offers you salvation. But I want to warn you that there is a day coming when He will never again renew His offer. If you, my friend, go out of this life without

Christ, you will never accept Him. You will be lost and lost forever, for there is no salvation after death.

Fifth—This May Be Someone's Last Opportunity

"Yes, I would like to be a Christian, and intend to be sometime," said a man to his friend one day, "but I want to enjoy the pleasures of the world first."

"Well, that's all right," responded his friend. "Go on and enjoy the world! You can become a Christian afterwards."

"But just when should I become a Christian?" inquired the other, in a somewhat anxious tone of voice.

"Oh, five minutes before you die will be time enough," replied his friend in a casual sort of way.

"But I don't know when I am going to die," he exclaimed. "I may not have another five minutes to live."

"In that case," remarked his friend, "the time to become a Christian is NOW."

"Boast not thyself of tomorrow: for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth" (Prov. 27:1). You may have another chance, but remember, there is a time coming when you will not, when you will have to make the final choice. And this, my unsaved friend, may be that time. As sure as God lives, the hour will strike when you will attend your last meeting, hear your last sermon, and make your last choice. Remember, there is no "tomorrow" with God. His Word declares that "now" is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (II Cor. 6:2). God's time is now.

"Why," you ask, "may this be someone's last opportunity?" First, because life is uncertain. Do you remember the rich man? Did he know that he would never see another sunrise, that that night would be his last? Of course not. He went to bed having made wonderful plans for the future, and looking forward to executing every one of them. But in the dead of the night he heard the voice of God, "Thou fool," He said, "this night thy soul shall be required of thee." I didn't call this man a fool. God did.

When is a man a fool? When he makes ample provision for this life, but none for the next. That was what this man did. He prepared for the present, but not for the future. Hence God called him a fool. He had had his last opportunity.

Oh, fool, fool, not to reckon with the uncertainty of life! And will you, too, play the fool, and continue to procrastinate until suddenly your doom is sealed? Death everywhere, startling and unexpected! Today here, tomorrow in eternity; today walking about strong and well, tomorrow lying cold and silent! Accidents on every side! Danger wherever you go!

Why, man, the next train you ride on may hurl you into the presence of your Maker! The street you cross on your way home may see your mangled body beneath the wheels of a passing car. Yea, even now, while plans for tomorrow are passing through your mind, the voice of God, could you but hear it, may be saying to you also, "Thou fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee," or, "This year thou shalt die" (Jer. 28:16). Ah, yes! life is uncertain.

One night in The Peoples Church, I concluded my service as usual and pronounced the benediction. A young woman had been sitting in the gallery in front of me but she hadn't responded to the invitation. At the close of the service I got into my car and drove along Bloor Street to the Bay. There I saw a great crowd, several policemen and two or three street cars. Parking my car, I walked over to the corner, and

there under the wheels of one of the street cars, I saw the body of the young woman who had been sitting before me in the gallery ten minutes earlier, almost every bone in her body broken—dead. Did she know that she would never hear another sermon, that she would never have another opportunity? Why, of course not. She expected to be back next Sunday night as usual. She thought she had lots of time. But for her it was the end. She would never have an opportunity again.

This may be someone's last opportunity, because Jesus is coming. When He will come I do not know, but I do know that He is coming back. Again and again He said, when He was on earth, "Be ye also ready, for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of Man cometh."

Are you, my friend, ready? Would you like Him to return tonight? Would you welcome Him, or would you be ashamed before Him? Would you want to call on the rocks and the mountains to fall on you and hide you from His face? Does the thought of His coming strike terror into your heart, or is it a comforting hope? Are you looking forward to His return, or are you afraid to meet Him as you are?

If you are unsaved, then you do not want to see Him. If you have accepted Him, then you will rejoice when He comes. "We which are alive" says Paul, "will be changed and caught up to meet the Lord in the air." Would you be caught up, or would you be left behind? "One shall be taken and the other left." How many here tonight would go up if He were to come at this moment? You do not know when He will return, and remember, it is to be sudden, in the twinkling of an eye. There will be no time to prepare. Therefore, I say, this may be your last opportunity because Jesus may come.

This may be someone's last opportunity, because the Spirit may cease to strive. "God is departed from me." Those were the saddest words Saul ever uttered. It is a terrible thing when your wife departs from you, or your child. But when God departs, there is no hope. Let me say, however, that God never departs until you depart. God will not leave you until you leave Him.

"God gave them up." Those were the words of the Apostle Paul. I say again it is an awful thing to have your father give you up, or to have your husband give you up. But when God gives you up, you are indeed hopeless. I must again state, however, that God does not give you up until you give Him up. But when He does, there is no hope. You will have had your last opportunity.

There is an unpardonable sin, a sin that even God Himself cannot forgive. That sin is the final rejection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Last Sunday night you said "no" when the invitation was given. Tonight you are going to say "no" again. One of these nights you will say "no" for the last time. It may be tonight, I do not know. You do not know. Only God knows. But if this should be your last opportunity, and if you are going to say "no" tonight for the last time, then you will never have a chance again, for you will have committed the unpardonable sin. You will come back next Sunday night, and you will enjoy the service as usual. You will enjoy the singing of the choir. Nothing will seem changed. But when the invitation is given, your heart will be hard. There will be no response. You will have no desire to accept Christ. The Spirit will have left you. Never again will He plead. You will be lost and lost forever.

Year after year, month after month, week after week, the Spirit has been striving with you. God has been calling, pleading, beseeching, but—"Ye would not." Again and again you have heard His voice in sermon and in song. Every time the invitation has been given, you have recognized the gentle wooings of the Holy Spirit entreating you to give yourself to Jesus. And every time you have answered, "No!"

(Continued on page 8)

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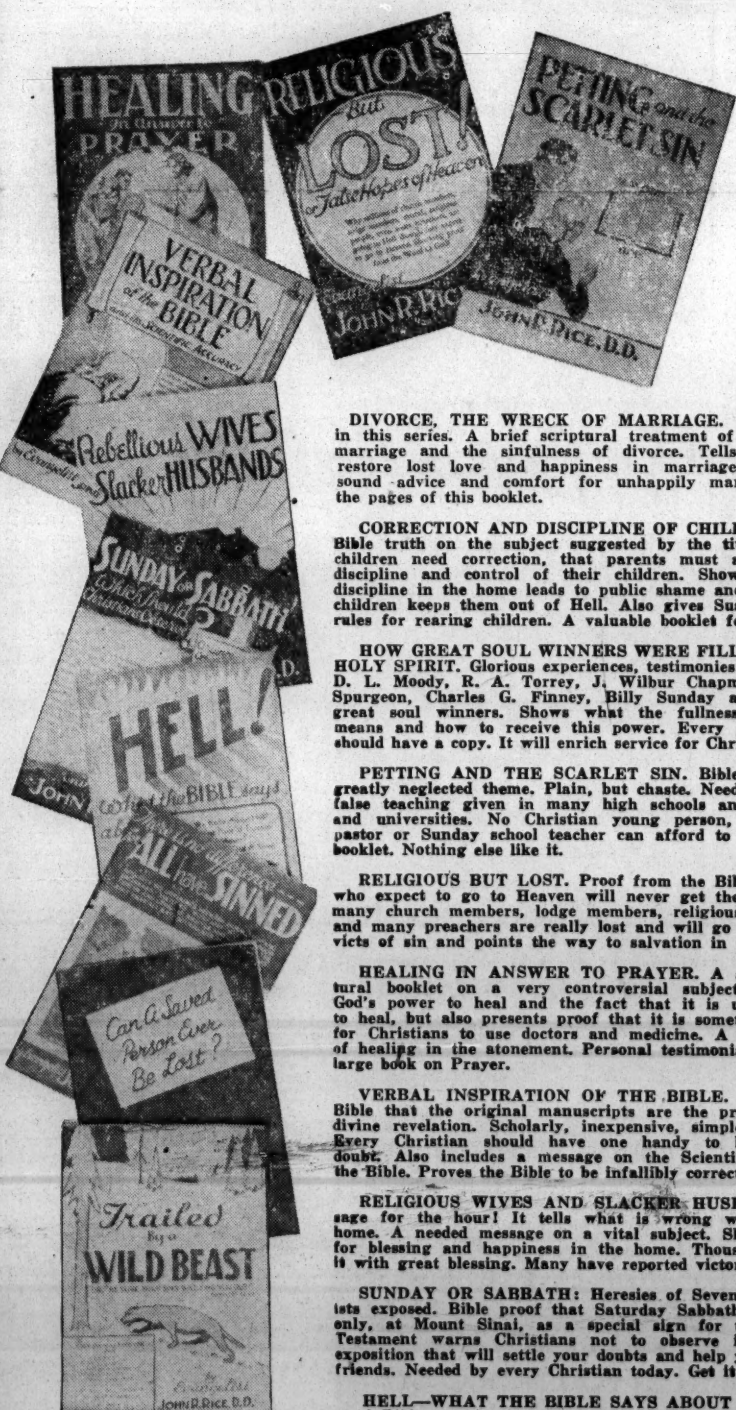
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Five Solemn Facts

(Continued from page 7)

"My Spirit shall not always strive with man" (Gen. 6:3). These are the solemn words of God Himself. Oh, then, be warned before it is forever too late! Will you seal your doom, and damn your own soul? Or will you obey the voice of the Spirit now, and take the Lord Jesus as your Saviour? Would to God I could persuade you!

Oh, my unsaved friend, I plead with you, come, delay not, for the Spirit may cease to strive, and your last opportunity be gone!

D. L. Moody had a class of young men. He had won most of them to Christ, but one had refused to yield. One day he spoke to him, urging him to make his decision. "Listen, Mr. Moody," replied the young man, "I'm going west, and after I have made my fortune, when I return I promise you I will accept Christ," and he turned away. Mr. Moody listened with a sad heart.

Some weeks later the young man became seriously ill, and was taken to the hospital. Mr. Moody felt led to visit him, and bending over his bed he again urged him to accept Jesus Christ. But once more, this time in a feeble voice, he refused. "Mr. Moody," he said, "I'm not going to die. I'm going to get better, and as I told you before, I'm going west, and when I come back I'll become a Christian." Mr. Moody turned away with a heavy heart.

Finally, one day, the young man who did get better, came walking briskly up to Mr. Moody's veranda. "Mr. Moody," he cried, extending his hand, "I have come to say good-by. I am leaving for the west." Mr. Moody laid his hand on his shoulder, and again spoke to him, urging the claims of Christ. The young man became angry, and shaking off the hand of the evangelist, he replied, "Moody, never speak to me again about my soul's salvation. I have promised you to make the decision when I have returned, but not before. Good-by." With that he left, and Mr. Moody realizing that something had snapped in his own heart, sat down disappointed.

That night when Mr. Moody was sound asleep, he was awakened by a loud knocking on his door. Putting his head out of the window, he saw a woman with a shawl wrapped around her head. "Oh, Mr. Moody," she cried, her voice filled with anguish, "come quickly. My husband is sick, desperately sick, and I am afraid. Please come at once."

In a moment Mr. Moody recognized her as the wife of the young man he had spoken to that afternoon. "It would be no use," was his reply. "Your husband gave me his final refusal this afternoon. He has crossed the deadline. It would be useless for me to go." But because of her entreaties, he got dressed and went.

As he mounted the steps he saw the young man lying on his back on the bed, his eyes wide open, but apparently unconscious of those around him. As he approached he heard him uttering just two words, "Too late! Too late! Too late." Kneeling down by his side he grasped his hand, opened his Bible and commenced to pray. But the young man paid no attention whatever. He just kept staring up at the ceiling, and crying out, "Too late! Too late! Too late!" Mr. Moody did everything possible to arouse him but there was no recognition, and in a few minutes he expired, still exclaiming as he had before, "Too late!"

My friend, you may not yet have committed the unpardonable sin. For you it may not yet be too late, but I want to warn you of the danger of continually rejecting God's offer of mercy. Life is uncertain, Jesus is coming, and the Spirit may cease to strive. If he does, you will never have another opportunity. This, therefore, could be your last opportunity. Oh, that you would heed the warning, and now—before it is forever too late—receive Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour.

You need not be deceived; you need not perish. There is everlasting life for you; that is, if you will have it. May I not pre-

vail upon you to accept the offered mercy of God? Is it a small thing that Jesus Christ should take your place on the cross and die in your stead? Oh, then, come; lay hold on eternal life, be entreated, yield to Him now. Yea, hearken to His promise, and be encouraged: "Him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out" (John 6:37).

"Behold, I stand at the door, and knock; if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in" (Rev. 3:20). Is not that enough? Is He not willing? Yes, but—are YOU? Do you not know that He loves you, loves with an everlasting love? Has He not given His Son to die that you might live? What more can He do? Then, why still delay? Are you not ready, ready now to forsake your sin, renounce the world, and turn to God?

Would that I could persuade you! Oh, that you might hear! But how shall I entreat? What more can I say? God's only Son is pleading; and must it be said of you, "Ye will not come to me, that ye might have life"? (John 5:40). Will you not come? Do you not know there is danger in delay? Soon, soon, it will be too late, the day of grace will end and death will find you still unprepared. Oh, then, in God's name, I invite you. Be warned, be entreated! "Prepare to meet thy God" (Amos 4:12). The door of mercy still stands open; a welcome and pardon await you; for "Whosoever will, may come." Leave, then, your sins; turn to Jesus; yield to the striving of the Holy Spirit, and say this moment, NOW: "O Lamb of God, I come!"

The Editor Adds His Plea

You have read this tremendous sermon by Dr. Oswald Smith and you know that all will not be saved, that the majority will be lost, that many will perish who expect to be saved, that there is no salvation after death, and that this may be your last opportunity. I beg you in Jesus' name to decide now for Jesus Christ.

The only thing that stands between you and salvation is your own stubborn will, your love for sin. If you are willing to repent of your sin and turn to Christ, you can be saved this moment. Will you do it?

And this is the simple way: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31). Here and now turn to Christ, depend upon Him, risk Him, rely upon Him, commit your soul to Him. The moment you honestly come in your heart, He will take you, forgive you, and save you. Jesus died to pay for all your sins. Your heart is wicked, but He will gladly change it if you will surrender to Him and trust Him.

If you will take Christ as your Saviour this moment, here and now, then I beg you to let me know today. Say "yes" to Christ in your heart honestly and forever. Trust Him, love Him, give your life over to Him. You can do it in a moment, in your heart, if you will. Then sign the statement below, copy it in a letter and mail to me at once. I will let Dr. Smith know of your decision and we will both rejoice. Then I will send you a letter of comfort and council and encouragement. In Jesus' name decide, then sign and mail today.

Evangelist John R. Rice, Editor
THE SWORD OF THE LORD
214 W. Wesley Street
Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Dr. Rice:

I realize that I am a poor, lost sinner. I have read Dr. Oswald Smith's sermon on "Five Solemn Facts." I know these facts are so. So here and now I repent of my sins, I depend on Christ to save me. This moment I give Him my heart, in faith and love, to be His and to serve Him. I now accept His forgiveness and claim Him as my Saviour.

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Compiled by Porter Routh

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Inflationary fires continued to burn with the 1939 dollar now worth about 57 cents. Production has jumped about 67 per cent since 1939, but money available for spending has increased from about 70 billion to 250 billion. In July, withdrawals from savings accounts amounted to \$341 million.

The Federal Reserve Board reports that consumer credit set a record in August when it reached \$20,979,000,000.

The Construction cost index (1913 equal 100) reached 513 in August.

Thomas R. Muller, president of the Lehigh Structural Steel Company, told the National Recreation Congress that every American corporation should put 5 per cent of its annual profit into a foundation for community betterment. He said this would ward off Government interference in community life.

Major league baseball drew 17,226,824 fans in 1950, 15 per cent under 1949.

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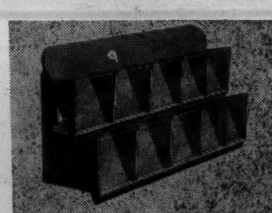
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